

Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP)
Tool for Van Lifts/Vehicle Modifications

What are van lifts/vehicle modifications?

Van lifts and vehicle modifications are considered adaptive aids in MDCP. Adaptive aids are:

- necessary to treat, rehabilitate, prevent or compensate for conditions resulting in disability or loss of function; or
- devices that enable you to perform the activities of daily living or control the environment in which you live.

You are not required to obtain denial letters from Medicaid for van lifts or vehicle modifications.

Are there any personal costs related to van lifts/vehicle modifications?

If you request van lifts/vehicle modifications that are not allowed by MDCP or that are more than the limit for MDCP, you may need to contribute to the cost of the van lift/vehicle modification.

What are the limits for van lifts/vehicle modifications?

Van lifts/vehicle modifications are subject to the same limits as adaptive aids. The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) will not pay for van lifts/vehicle modifications costing less than **\$100**. The maximum cost for van lifts/vehicle modifications per service plan year is **\$4,000**, and is included in your current total individual plan of care (IPC) budget as an adaptive aid. Requests that do not meet the service criteria or exceed this limit are considered personal costs.

What information do I need to provide to the case manager when I want to request a van lift/vehicle modification?

You need to provide the following information in writing:

- (1) information on the vehicle to be modified, including:
 - (a) the year and model of the vehicle;
 - (b) proof of ownership;
 - (c) current state inspection and tags;
 - (d) a copy of applicable state insurance; and
 - (e) mileage;
- (2) information on the needed modifications; and
- (3) if you are not the owner of the vehicle, you must provide the vehicle owner's signed and dated written approval for the vehicle modification.

When do I provide this information to the case manager?

You may give this information to the case manager when you submit the written specifications and bids mentioned below.

Are there any special requirements if the:

- **cost of the van lift/vehicle modification is \$1000 or more and the van/vehicle has more than 100,000 miles, or**
- **van/vehicle is more than four years old?**

Yes. When you request a van lift/vehicle modification that costs **\$1,000** or more and the vehicle has been driven more than **100,000** miles or if the van/vehicle is more than four years old, you must submit to the case manager:

- a written evaluation by an experienced mechanic who is not the MDCP adaptive aids provider of the requested vehicle modification to document the sound mechanical condition of all major components of the vehicle; and
- documentation of the experience of the mechanic who performed the evaluation.

What must be included in a vehicle evaluation?

You have the option of giving the mechanic [Form 2432](#), Vehicle Evaluation, to complete the evaluation or the mechanic can use his own form but must include the same information listed on Form 2432. You are responsible for making sure the information is complete.

Can MDCP funds pay for the vehicle evaluation?

No. DADS will not pay for the cost of the vehicle evaluation or any repairs or adjustments. This is your responsibility or the responsibility of the van's/vehicle's owner.

What are my responsibilities in obtaining van lifts/vehicle modifications?

You will need written specifications for the van lifts/vehicle modifications you are requesting and three bids. **Note:** Only MDCP adaptive aids providers approved by the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services to install van lifts can modify your van/vehicle for you under MDCP.

Where do I go to obtain specifications?

You are responsible for obtaining written specifications for the items you request. The written specifications must be prepared by your:

- practitioner;
- physical therapist;
- occupational therapist;
- speech pathologist; or
- MDCP adaptive aids provider.

What is included in the specifications?

The written specifications must include:

- your name and address;
- the name and description of the van lift/vehicle modification being requested;
- how you will use the requested modification and why it is necessary for your treatment/rehabilitation;
- the printed name and signature of the person preparing the written specifications, along with the date the form was signed; and
- your signature with the date.

Now that I have the written specification, what's next?

You must provide the specification to three bidders. The bids for the van lift/vehicle modification must include:

- an itemized list of parts and accessories, including their prices;
- an itemized list of required labor and charges; and
- information on warranty coverage.

You may choose any business that modifies vans/vehicles to give you a bid or you may select bidders from the list of MDCP adaptive aids providers. You have the option of giving bidders [Form 2435](#), Adaptive Aids Bid, to complete or the bidders can use their own bid forms.

You can ask bidders to send the bids to you or the bidders may send the bids to your case manager.

If you are not able to obtain three bids, you must contact your case manager and explain why you could not obtain three bids. You must be prepared to provide specific information about your efforts to secure three bids.

Now that I have the three bids, what's next?

You must give a copy of the written specifications to your case manager along with the three bids. If you asked the bidders to send the bids to your case manager, you must ensure that your case manager received them.

Once my case manager receives all the information, what will DADS do?

DADS reviews the request along with the rest of the information. If the van lift/vehicle modification is approved, DADS will:

- authorize the amount of the lowest bid;
- determine the amount you are responsible for paying if the van lift/vehicle modification is more than the adaptive aids limit or if not all of the requested modifications are allowed adaptive aids; and
- ask you to select an MDCP adaptive aids provider to modify your van/vehicle.

If DADS determines the van lift/vehicle modification is not an approved adaptive aid, you will be notified of the denial and you may request an appeal.